Mr. John Wilkins

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No. LXXXIV] THE FEBRUARY 9, 1788

PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

Price Six-Pence.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1788. [Vol. I.

PITTSBURGH: *Printed and Sold by* JOHN SCULL and JOHN BOYD, *at their Printing-Office in Water-ſtreet, near the Ferry.*

The ADDRESS and REASONS of Diſſent of the Minority of the Convention of the State of Pennſylvania to their Conſtituents.

(Concluded from our laſt.)

TRIAL by jury in criminal caſes may alſo be excluded by declaring that the libeller for inſtance ſhall be liable to an action of debt for a ſpecial ſum; thus evading the common law proſecution by indictment and trial by jury. And the common courſe of proceeding againſt a ſhip for breach of revenue laws by information (which will be claſſed among the civil cauſes) will, at the civil law be within the reſort of a court, where no jury intervenes. Beſides, the benefit of jury trial, in caſes of a criminal nature, which cannot be evaded, will be rendered of little value by calling the accuſed to anſwer far from home; there being no proviſion that the trial be by a jury of the neighbourhood or country. Thus an inhabitant of Pittſburgh, on a charge of a crime committed on the banks of the Ohio, may be obliged to defend himſelf at the ſide of the Delaware, and ſo *vice verſa*. To conclude this head: we obſerve that the judges of the courts of Congreſs would not be independent, as they are not debarred for holding other offices, during the pleaſure of the preſident and ſenate, and as they may derive their ſupport in part from fees, alterable by the legiſlature.

The next conſideration that the conſtitution preſents, is the undue and dangerous mixture of the powers of government; the ſame body poſſeſſing legiſlative, executive, and judicial powers. The ſenate is a conſtituent branch of the legiſlature, it has judicial power in judging on impeachments, and in this caſe unites in ſome meaſure, the characters of judge and party, as all the principal officers are appointed by the preſident general, with the concurrence of the ſenate. This may biaſs the judgment of the ſenators and tend to ſkreen great delinquents from puniſhment. And the ſenate has, moreover, various and great executive powers, viz. in concurrence with the preſident general, they form treaties with foreign nations, that may controul and abrogate the conſtitutions and laws of the ſeveral ſtates. Indeed, there is no power, privilege or liberty of the ſtate governments, or of the people, but what may be affected by virtue of this power. For all treaties, made by them, are to be the "ſupreme law of the land, any thing in the conſtitution or laws of any ſtate, to the contrary notwithſtanding."

And this great power may be exerciſed by the preſident and 2/3 ſenators (being two thirds of 24, which is a quorum of that body.) What an inducement would this offer to the miniſters of foreign powers to compaſs by bribery *ſuch conceſſions*, as could not otherwiſe be obtained. It is the unvaried uſage of all free ſtates, whenever treaties interfere with the poſitive laws of the land, to make the intervention of the legiſlature neceſſary to give them operation. This became neceſſary and was afforded by the parliament of Great-Britain, in conſequence of the late commercial treaty between that kingdom and France. As the ſenate judges on impeachments, who is to try the members of the ſenate for the abuſe of this power? And none of the great appointments to office can be made without the conſent of the ſenate.

Such various, extenſive, and important powers combined in one body of men, are inconſiſtent with all freedom; the celebrated Monteſquieu tells us, that "when the legiſlative and executive powers are united in the ſame perſon, or in the ſame body of magiſtrates, there can be no liberty, becauſe apprehenſions may ariſe, leſt the ſame monarch or ſenate ſhould enact tyrannical laws, to execute them in a tyrannical manner."

"Again, there is no liberty, if the power of judging be not ſeparated from the legiſlative and executive powers. Were it joined with the legiſlative, the life and liberty of the ſubject, would be expoſed to arbitrary controul; for the judge would then be legiſlature. Were it joined to the executive power, the judge might behave with all the violence of an oppreſſor. There would be an end of every thing, were the ſame man, or the ſame body of the nobles, or of the people, to exerciſe thoſe three powers; that of enacting laws; that of executing the public reſolutions; and that of judging the crimes or differences of individuals."

The preſident general is dangerouſly connected with the ſenate, his coincidence with the views of the ruling junto in that body, is made eſſential to his weight and importance in the government, which will deſtroy all independency and purity in the executive department, and having the power of pardoning without the concurrence of a council, he may ſkreen from puniſhment the moſt treaſonable attempts that may be made on the liberties of the people, when inſtigated by his coadjutors in the ſenate. Inſtead of this dangerous and improper mixture of the executive with the legiſlative and judicial, the ſupreme executive powers ought to have been placed in the preſident, with a ſmall independent council, made perſonally reſponſible for every appointment to office or other act, by having their opinions recorded; and that without the concurrence of the majority of the quorum of this council, the preſident ſhould not be capable of taking any ſtep.

We have before conſidered internal taxation, as it would effect the deſtruction of the ſtate governments, and produce one conſolidated government. We will now conſider that ſubject as it affect the perſonal concerns of the people.

The power of direct taxation applies to every individual, as Congreſs under this government is expreſsly veſted with the authority of laying a capitation or poll tax upon every perſon to any amount. This is a tax that, however oppreſſive in its nature, and unequal in its operation, is certain as to its produce and ſimple in its collection: it cannot be evaded like the objects of impoſt or exciſe, and will be paid, becauſe all that a man hath will be give for his head. This tax is ſo congenial to the nature of deſpotiſm, that it has ever been a favorite under ſuch governments. Some of thoſe who were in the late general convention from this ſtate, have long labored to introduce a poll tax among us.

The power of direct taxation will further apply to every individual, as Congreſs may tax land, cattle, trades, occupations, &c. to any amount, and every object of internal taxation is of that nature, that however oppreſſive the people will have, but this alternative, either to pay the tax, or let their property be taken; for all reſiſtance will be vain. The ſtanding army and ſelect militia would enforce the collection.

For the moderate exerciſe of this power, there is no controul left in the ſtate governments, whoſe intervention is deſtroyed. No relief, or redreſs of grievances can be extended, as heretofore, by them. There is not even a declaration of RIGHTS to which the people may appeal in vindication of their wrongs in the courts of juſtice. They muſt, therefore, implicitly obey the moſt arbitrary laws, as the worſt of them, will be purſuant to the principles and form of the conſtitution, and that ſtrongeſt of all checks upon the conduct of adminiſtration, reſponſibility to the people, will not exiſt in this government. The permanency of the appointments of ſenators and repreſentatives, and the controul the congreſs have over their election, will place them independent of the ſentiments and reſentments of the people, and the adminiſtration having a greater intereſt in the government than in the community, there will be no conſideration to reſtrain them from oppreſſion and and tyranny. In the government of this ſtate under the old confederation, the members of the legiſlature are taken from among the people, and their intereſts and welfare are ſo inſeparably connected with thoſe of their conſtituents, that they can derive no advantage from oppreſſive laws and taxes, for they would ſuffer in common with their fellow citizens; would participate in the burthens they impoſe on the community, as they muſt return to the common level, after a ſhort period; and notwithſtanding every exertion of influence, every means of corruption, a neceſſary rotation excludes them from permanency in the legiſlature.

This large ſtate is to have but ten members in that Congreſs which is to have the liberty, property and deareſt concerns of every individual of this vaſt country at abſolute command; and even theſe ten perſons, who are to be our only guardians; who are to ſupercede the legiſlature of Pennſylvania; will not be of the choice of the people, nor amenable to them. From the mode of their election and appointment they will conſiſt of the lordly and high minded; of men who will have no congenial feelings with the people, but a perfect indifference for, and contempt of them. they will conſiſt of thoſe harpies of power, that prey upon the very vitals; that riot on the miſeries of the community. But we will ſuppoſe, although in all probability it may never be realized in fact, that our deputies in Congreſs have the welfare of their conſtituents at heart; and will exert themſelves in their behalf, what ſecurity could even this afford; what relief could they extend to their oppreſſed conſtituents? To attain this, the majority of the deputies of the twelve other ſtates in Congreſs, muſt be alike well diſpoſed; muſt alike forego the ſweets of power, and relinquiſh the purſuits of ambition, which from the nature of things is not to be expected. If the people part with a reſponſible repreſentation in the legiſlature, founded upon fair, certain and frequent elections, they have nothing left they can call their own. Miſerable is the lot of that people whoſe every concern depends on the WILL and PLEASURE of their rulers. Our ſoldiers will become janiſſaries, and our officers of government behaves: in ſhort, the ſyſtem of deſpotiſm would ſoon be completed.

From the foregoing inveſtigation it appears, that the Congreſs under this conſtitution, will not poſſeſs the confidence of the people, which is an eſſential requiſite in a good government; for unleſs the laws command the confidence and reſpect of the great body of the people, ſo as to induce them to ſupport them, when called on by the civil magiſtrate, they muſt be executed by the aid of a numerous ſtanding army, which would be inconſiſtent with every idea of liberty; for the ſame force that may be employed to compel obedience to good laws, might and probably would be uſed to wreſt from the people their conſtitutional liberties. The framers of this conſtitution appear to have been aware of this great deficiency; to have been ſenſible that no dependence could be placed on the people for their ſupport: but on the contrary, that the government muſt be executed by force. They have, therefore, made proviſion for this purpoſe in a permanent STANDING ARMY, and a MILITIA that may be ſubjected to as ſtrict diſcipline and government.

A ſtanding army in the hands of a government placed ſo independent of the people, may be made a fatal inſtrument to overturn the public liberties; it may be employed to enforce the collection of the moſt oppreſſive taxes, and to carry into execution the moſt arbitrary meaſures. An ambitious man who may have the army at his devotion, may ſtep up into the throne, and ſeize upon abſolute power.

The abſolute unqualified command that Congreſs have over the militia may be made inſtrumental to the deſtruction of all liberty, both public and private; whether of a perſonal, civil or religious nature.

Firſt. The perſonal liberty of every man probably from ſixteen to ſixty years of age, may be deſtroyed by the power Congreſs have in organizing and governing of the militia. As militia they may be ſubjected to fines to any amount, levied in a military manner; they may be ſubjected to corporal puniſhments of the moſt diſgraceful and humiliating kind, and to death itſelf by the ſentence of a court martial: to this our young men will be more immediately ſubjected, as a ſelect militia, compoſed of them, will beſt anſwer the purpoſes of government.

Secondly. The rights of conſcience may be violated, as there is no exemption of thoſe perſons who are conſcientiouſly ſcrupulous of bearing arms. Theſe compoſe a reſpectable proportion of the community in the ſtate. This is the more remarkable, becauſe even when the diſtreſſes of the late war, and the evident diſaffection of many citizens of that deſcription, inflamed our paſſions, and when every perſon, who was obliged to riſk his own life, muſt have been exaſperated, againſt ſuch as on any account kept back from the common danger, yet, even then, when outrage and violence might have been expected, the rights of conſcience were held ſacred.

At this momentous criſis, the framers of our ſtate conſtitution, made the moſt expreſs and decided declaration and ſtipulations in favour of the rights of conſcience: but now, when no neceſſity calls, theſe deareſt rights of men are left unſecured.

Thirdly. The abſolute command of Congreſs over the militia, may be deſtructive of public liberty; for under the guidance of an [illegible]

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The abſolute unqualified command that Congreſs have over the militia may be made inſtrumental to the deſtruction of all liberty, both public and private; whether of a perſonal, civil or religious nature.

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At this momentous criſis, the framers of our ſtate conſtitution, made the moſt expreſs and decided declaration and ſtipulations in favor of the rights of conſcience: but now, when no neceſſity exiſts, theſe deareſt rights of men are left unſecured.

Thirdly. The abſolute command of Congreſs over the militia, may be deſtructive of public liberty; for under the guidance of [illegible]

they may be made the unwilling instruments of tyranny. The militia of Pennsylvania may be marched to New England or Virginia to quell an insurrection occasioned by the most galling oppression, and aided by the standing army, they will, no doubt, be successful in subduing their liberty and independency; but in so doing, although the magnanimity of their minds will be extinguished, yet the meaner passions of resentment and revenge will be increased, and these in turn will be ready and obedient instruments of despotism to enslave the others; and that with an irritated vengeance. Thus may the militia be made the instruments of crushing the last efforts of expiring liberty, of riviting the chains of despotism on their fellow citizens, and on one another. This power can be exercised not only without violating the constitution, but in strict conformity with it, it is calculated for this express purpose, and will doubtless be executed accordingly.

As this government will not enjoy the confidence of the people, but be executed by force; it will be a very expensive and burthensome government. The standing army must be numerous, and as a further support; it will be the policy of this government to multiply officers in every department; judges, collectors, tax gatherers, excisemen, and the whole host of revenue officers will swarm over the land, devouring the hard earnings of the industrious. Like the locusts of old, impoverishing and desolating all before them.

We have not noticed the smaller, nor many of the considerable blemishes, but have confined our objections to the great and essential defects; the main pillars of the constitution; which we have shewn to be inconsistent with the liberty and happiness of the people as its establishment will annihilate the state government, and produce one consolidated government that will eventually and speedily issue in the supremacy of despotism,

In this investigation, we have not confined our views to the interests or welfare of this state, in preference to the others. We have overlooked all local circumstances, we have considered this subject on the broad scale of the general good; we have asserted the cause of the present and future ages; the cause of liberty and mankind.

Nathaniel Breading,
John Smilie,
Richard Baird,
Adam Orth,
John A Hanna,
John Whitehill,
John Harris,
Robert Whitehill,
John Reynolds,
Jonathan Hoge,
Nicholas Lutz,
John Ludwig,
Abraham Lincoln,
John Bishop,
Joseph Heister,
Joseph Powel,
James Martin,
William Findley,
John Beard,
James Edgar,
William Todd.

From the New-York Dailey Advertiser.

Plan for a Wax-Work Legislature.

"Ah! cease to laugh, for laughing ne'er will do,
"Perceive the right, and still the right pursue;
"Let men of merit sit in merit's place,
"For clowns and blockheads fill it with disgrace."

To the PRINTER

A VERY vulgar idea seems to pervade the generality of the citizens, that none but mechanics are fit to be representatives in the legislature, for the interest of the mechanics. Any person, with a very small share of discernment, would be led to think that the mechanics and others should change their plan of electing legislators now, since they have been so often deceived in their choice. I grant that a cobler may be a fit person enough to represent and advocate the interests of shoemakers, but this is a very sufficient reason why he should not have a seat in the legislature; for as the good of the commonwealth, the primitive intent of a legislative representative, does not consist in the advancement of any one trade, or number of trades, but in the universal promotion of every honest man's employment; he is disqualified for a seat in the council of the state, who is not perfectly acquainted with its general interests.

Let none but men of extensive knowledge and liberal principles, no matter in what rank of life they appear, be elected members for senate or assembly; for by a foolish adherence to the above vulgar idea, we we have seen men taken from their employments, where they were useful to society, and sent to the legislature, where they were not only useless but ridiculous, with the erroneous title of the representatives of the people; but they no more represent the people than my standish does a man of war! for certainly the people are not *dumb!*

If no better representatives than some we have lately seen, can be found, let the citizens begin to open a subscription for the purpose of constructing a number of wax work figures, to represent the good dumb people of the state. I have been told that there is now a French artist in town, who can furnish a complete set of these representatives before the next election comes on, and as economy is the very life and soul, as it were, of good government, this plan will fully accord with its principles. When one of these figures is fully equipped; nay, they may be stuffed with all the laws in the state, and their heads filled with the best politics in the universe, and that is a great deal more than a very large number of assemblymen can say for themselves; I say, when one of these representatives is every way accomplished, and ready to say AY!! and NO!! in a solemn, audible tone, he will not cost so much as one of the present or past legislatures; and they will have this superior advantage, that they will last for 41 years, if not abused.

Some people, without examining into the merits of the propcsal, may think this is a whimsical scene, but I can assure the reader that it would be both wholesome and prudent; for by adopting such a plan as this, the debts of the commonwealth might be paid off in ten or fifteen years, without laying any new taxes, and without burthening the good peaceable farmers, who, I am convinced, would readily come into this measure, as it is just the same thing to them whether the laws are made by black men or white men, Egyptian mummies or wax work machines; for they obey them as they please; they pay their taxes whenever they choose; and therefore the laws of the one would answer as well for them as the laws of the other; besides, there are laws enough, in all conscience, to serve for these fifty years to come: for what does it signify to make laws, if they are not enforced? And there are volumes of them now in the archives of the state, that are a mere dead letter, of hardly so much use to the state, as a good ballad; yet some of these same dead and alive laws have cost the people thousands of hard dollars. To be sure it is a good method to have a number of ready made laws lying past, for who knows what occasion there may be for them, some time or other?

Perhaps the reader may laugh at this scheme, and think that I mean to recommend a dumb assembly to make laws for the government of the state; but I declare there is nothing further from my intentions: for I propose to myself that there shall be as much noise and debate in this wax work assembly, as there has been in any of those that we have seen these two years last past. A speaker to sign the laws, and five or six motion makers to raise debates, would be every way sufficient for the assembly; the remainder to complete the present number, and determine if this, that, or t'other question may be right or wrong, would do as well in either wax or wood; for as we have found the above number of motion makers sufficient in past assemblies, we may reasonably conclude they will answer well enough in future ones.

To each of these motion makers I would apportion a certain and equal number of the ay's and no's, as they are at present; and I would make this wax work assembly resemble as nearly as possible, those we have already seen; with this trifling difference, that in place of being moved with long winded speeches, I would have them moved with mechanism, from which circumstance I flatter myself that it would gain the approbation of the mechanics. Every motion maker should have his portion of wires, by the pulling of which he could make his party say ay or no, just as it would answer his purpose.

Suppose this assembly met, what a respectable appearance it would make, to see them all dressed in long robes like Roman senators! a spectator going in to hear their debates would be impulsively led to take off his hat, out of respect, at beholding so venerable an assemble of legislators; whereas spectators now take of their hats in compliance to custom.

As to patriotism, people may say what they will; but I aver that this assembly would be as patriotic as any that has assembled since the days of Hudibras; for (we will suppose the motion makers to be men of principle) it would be impossible to purchase their influence with a purse, which every body admits to be very tempting.

Having fully shewn the utility of a wax work assembly, I shall now conclude, after recommending to the citizens to engage with the person who shews the wonderful figures of Bell and the Dragon, for furnishing a sufficient number of these legislators in wax, against the election; and that they should not come under the description of infidels or mere statues, I would have them christened by the following names, which I request you will put in large characters, that they may not escape the notice of the Free Electors.

Mr. PATRIOT,
Mr. POPULARITY,
Mr. FREEDOM,
Mr. KNOWALL,
Mr. MENDALL,
Mr. LIBERTY,
Mr. PUBLICVIRTUE, and
Mr PLAINTRUTH.

Now as the above characters that have been neglected in New Amsterdam for one would [illegible] common gratitude would induce the citizens to do something for them at the next election.

I am, Mr. Printer,
Your most obedient
Humble servant,
GEORGE PUBLICUS.
Elector of the Ward.

New Amsterdam, April 8.

Foreign Intelligence.

BRESLAW. August 20.

THERE are at present in this city and its suburbs, 3140 buildings, including churches and convents and 50,000 inhabitants

DUBLIN, October 12.

Though the British parliament is to meet next month for the dispatch of business, it is not certain that our parliament will open its session before the usual time; there is no doubt, however, but such a measure has been suggested from the other side the water, but our privy council are not, it seems, clearly convinced of the necessity therefor it, especially as the calling the houses before Christmas in this kingdom, would be attended with a great number of inconveniences: A remonstrance, we hear, has in consequence been dispatched to London by a special messenger.

The London stock jobbers, who a few weeks ago magnified every account of the hostile storm that at present impends over so many of the European nations: for the same interested purpose, are now as busy to promulgate a report that there will be no war; but as absolute facts militate so strongly on the other side of the question, all sensible people laugh at their impertinent manoeuvres.

Our parliament can have little to do with the warlike preparations that are now making; our army has, ever since the peace, been kept up to the highest war establishment, therefore any levies for the land service in Ireland, can only be to replace regiments that may be sent abroad: as to a navy, we have none, nor is the British ministry willing we should have one, and of course the levies that are made here for the marine department, are at the expence of Great Britain, with which our parliament have nothing to do.

Our streets on Monday about 1 o'clock exhibited a curious sight. An officer belonging to our garrison, for a wager of 100 guineas, undertook to run from the Phenix tavern, in Church-lane, to the foot barrack. He took off his coast and waistcoat, and run in his shirt, which was tied at the arms with ribband. He was preceded by an officer on horseback who cleared the way for him, and he was attended by a number of the soldiery, who kept up with him all the way. He lost the wager by half a minute. The novelty of the sight attracted the curiosity of the populace, and by the time he had reached the barrack he had gathered a tail as long as a comet.

Monday no less than 14 prisoners were committed to the New Prison, charged with various offences. Two of them were not more than 13 years of age.—The committal of such a number is naturally accounted for, from the prodigious increase of highway and street robberies, burglaries, and petty larcenies, which of late have vastly exceeded those committed at the worst period of the old watch.

LONDON, October 16.

Private letters from the Hague say, that all the arms of the patriot party there were collected together, and burnt before the house of sir James Harris

Advices were received by Monday's Flanders mail; that the emperor had put all his Hungarian army on the war establishment, and had given the command of it to the prince de Ligne, with the title of Feldzeug Meister: that each battalion of foot is augmented with two companies; and each regiment of cavalry with two squadrons.

Extract of a letter from Paris, Sept. 20.

"Letters from Vienna advise, that the French are very ill looked upon by the divan, as well as by the Mahometan nation. First, because the treaty of commerce made by the late count de Vergennes with Russia, engages France in a system of neutrality, even in the case of a declaration of war between the courts of Petersburgh and Constantinople. And secondly, because sir Robert Ainsley, the English ambassador,

has demonstrated to the vizier, that the count de Choiseul Gouffier has, in his picturesque voyage of Greece; indicating the means of restoring to the modern Atheneans, their ancient liberty."

Wednesday colonel Small, who served last war in America, with great credit to himself and much advantage to his country, had an audience of his majesty, completely habited in the Highland dress.

By intelligence received by this day's post, it appears that there is now more certainty of a war than ever.

American Occurrences.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 31.

Wednesday last arrived at Boston the schooner Jack, captain Sargent, in 59 days from Croisse, in France. The captain informs, that at that port every thing wore the aspect of war; that though an inconsiderable town, 1100 troops were marched in for its defence; that the cannon were mounted, &c. That an English frigate was cruising off Brest; that his most Christian majesty had demanded of the court of Berlin that the Prussian troops be withdrawn from Holland.

By captain Avery, who arrived at Boston in a brig from Halifax, on Thursday, we learn, that preparations for a speedy war were making at that place; that the officers of the troops were recruiting the regiments on the war establishment.

An advertisement in a late Halifax paper, mentions, that the insurance on goods to that place, in consequence of the expected war, had advanced to 25 per cent.

A letter from a house of the first credit and information in Glasgow, dated the 29th October, brought by the ship George, to a respectable merchant in this city, says, that vigorous preparations for war still continued, which at that time was thought to be inevitable.

It is reported as a fact, from Philadelphia, that the British seamen on board of vessels bound to Europe, are so panic struck, through fear of being pressed, should they return to their native country, that they daily desert. This has already raised seamens wages considerably. The case of seamen in this city, is nearly similar to the above, but has not produced the same effect.

Thursday last the French packet sailed, we are informed that she was well armed, having mounted 8 nine pounders previous to her sailing, and was proportionably manned.

BOSTON, Dec. 10.

Friday last, agreeable to notification, came on at Faneuil Hall, the choice of 12 delegates to meet in convention at the state house in this town, on the second Wednesday of January next, for the purpose of assenting to and ratifying the federal constitution. At half past 12 the poll closed, when

His excellency Jon Hancock,
Hon. James Bowdoin,
Hon. Samuel Adams,
Hon. William Phillips,
Hon. Caleb Davis,
Dr. Charles Jarvis,
John Winthrop, esq;
John Coffin Jones, esq;
Thomas Dawes, jun. esq;
Rev. Mr. Samuel Stillman,
Thomas Russel, esq;
Christopher Gore, esq;

were declared to be chosen.

It is not in our power to refer to a period, when such general unanimity pervaded all ranks of citizens, as on the above occasion. No clashing party interest appeared; but the whole business exhibited such marks of urbanity, as, we hope presage a happy issue of the deliberations of that great Areopagus, which is to determine whether this state will assent to and ratify a constitution, which has for its object the establishment of the dignity, freedom and happiness of our dear "country."

Pittsburgh, February 9.

The messengers appointed to invite the different tribes of Indians to the treaty that is to be held in May next, will set out from this place in a few days for that purpose.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated January 5, 1788.

"There can be no doubt of ten states adopting the new government before the first of May, nor of twelve adopting it before the first of next December."

HOW COLD IT IS.

NOW the bluft'ring Boreas blows,
See all the waters round are froze;
The trees that skirt the dreary plain,
All day a murm'ring cry maintain,
The trembling forest hears their moan,
And sadly mingles groan with groan;
How dismal all from east to west!
Heav'n defend the poor distress'd!
Such is the tale;
On hill and vale;
Each trav'ller may behold it is;
While low and high,
Are heard to cry,
Bless my heart, how cold it is!

Now slumb'ring sloth that cannot bear
The question of the searching air,
Lifts up her unkempt head and tries,
But cannot from her bondage rise,
The whilst the housewife briskly throws
Around her wheel, and sweetly shews
The healthful cheek industry brings;
Which is not in the gift of kings.
To her long life,
Devoid of strife,
And justly too, unfolded is;
The while the sloth
To stir is loth,
And trembling cries, how cold it is!

Now lisps sir Popling, tender weed!
All shiv'ring like a shaken reed!
How keen the air attacks my back!
John, place some lift upon that crack;
Go, sand-bag all the sashes round,
And see there's not an air-hole found---
Ah! bless me, now I feel a breath;
Good lack! 'tis like the chill of death.
Indulgence pale,
Tells this sad tale,
Till he in furs unfolded is;
Still, still complains,
For all his pains,
Bless my heart, how cold it is!

Now the poor newsman from the town,
Explores his path along the down,
His frozen fingers sadly blows,
And still he seeks, and still it snows,
Go, take his paper, Richard go,
And give a dram to make him glow:
This was the cry,
Humanity,
More precious far than gold it is,
Such gifts to deal,
When naysmen feel,
All clad in snow, how cold it is.

Humanity, delightful tale!
While we feel the winter gale;
May the cit in ermin'd coat,
Incline the ear to sorrow's note;
And where with misry's weight oppress'd,
A fellow sits a shiv'ring guest,
Full ample let his bounty flow,
To sooth the bosom chill'd by woe.
In town or vale,
Where'er the tale
Of real grief unfolded is,
O may he give
The means to live,
To those who know how cold it is.

Perhaps some warrior blind and lam'd,
Some tar for independence maim'd---
Consider these, for thee they bore
The loss of limb, and suffer'd more:
O pass them not! or if you do,
I'll sigh to think they fought for you,
Go pity all, but 'bore the rest,
The soldier or the tar distress'd:
Through winter's reign,
Relieve their pain,
For what they've done, sure bold it is:
Their wants supply,
Whene'er they cry,
Bless my heart, how cold it is!

And now ye sluggards, sloths, and beaux,
Who dread the breath that winter blows,
Pursue the counsel of a friend,
Who never found it yet offend:
Whilst winter deals his frost around,
Go face the air, and beat the ground;
With chearful spirits exercise,
'Tis there life's balmy blessings lies.
On hill and dale,
Though sharp the gale,
And frozen you behold it is;
The blood shall glow,
And sweetly flow,
And you'll ne'er cry how cold it is!

ANECDOTE.

A MEMBER of the general court of Massachusetts, who, from accustoming himself to take a nap after dinner, when at home, could not dispense with the custom, when attending to give laws to a mighty people, not long since occasioned much sport in the house, by the following incident. A day was assigned for the second reading of a lumber act: as this interested our sleeper, he requested a friend, to awake him, if the discussion of the bill should be introduced, while he was asleep. This his friend promised him: but happening to go out for a few minutes, the bill was called for; and after a short debate was committed. Immediately after, the bill for preventing fornication, was brought on. This occasioned some debate, during which the sleeper's friend returned. Finding the lumber bill was dismissed, he thought he might indulge his friend in his nap. However, as ill luck would have it, he trod upon the toe of this votary to Morpheus, who supposed it a signal for his waking: immediately rousing himself, he rubbed his eyes, and looking about, perceived a pause in the debate, on which he arose, and addressed the speaker as follows: "Sir, I wish to speak a few words on the bill now in question. It affects, Mr. Speaker, my constituents very much: for *above half our town get their living by it.*

A Boat Yard

IS erected by the subscriber at the mouth of Turtle Creek, on the Monongahela river, within ten miles of Fort Pitt, where he has a Saw Mill in good order; any person may be supplied with boards on a short notice.

JOHN PERRY.

February 2, 1788.

He has erected Stores for the reception of goods.

ONE GUINEA REWARD.

SOME evil minded persons, inimical to the interest of the United States, have for these ten nights past attempted to divest the fence round this garrison of the pales belonging to it. The above reward will be given to any person who will discover the authors of such wanton abuse, so that they may receive the punishment which the civil law inflicts for theft.

Given at Fort Pitt, February 1, 1788.

MATTHEW ERNEST, Lieut. Artil. Com.

BY agreement between the rev. Wm. Marshall, in Philadelphia, and the subscriber, there will be exposed to sale, at public vendue, on Tuesday the fifteenth day of April, at twelve o'clock, at noon, in the house of Mr. David Duncan, in Pittsburg, A certain tract of land, lying on the waters of little Moon Run, near the river Ohio, in Washington country, about seven miles from Pittsburg, containg four hundred acres, with the usual allowance. A clear title will be given, and the lands will be certainly sold then for whatever is offered, to the highest bidder.

The subscriber will purchase hemp, and give good encouragement to boys who will bind themselves to learn the ropemaking business.

HUGH ROSS.

Pittsburg, February 1, 1788.

Mingoe bottom, Jan. 15, 1788.

STRAYED or stolen from the subscriber, a large Sorrel MARE, about fifteen or sixteen hands high, in good order when taken away, a natural pacer, branded I. W. on the near shoulder or buttock. Whoever takes up said mare, and the theif (if she has been stolen) shall have Eight Dollars Reward, if taken up without the county, if within the county Six Dollars, or two dollars for the Mare only, and reasonable charges, paid to any person who shall deliver said Mare at Mingoe Bottom.

JOSEPH WELLS.

German Almanacs for the Year 1788, for sale at the Printing Office, Pittsburgh.

WANTED as an Apprentice to the HATTING BUSINESS, a LAD of about 14 years of age. Any perſon inclining to come to the above buſineſs, may apply to,

M. CURTIS.

Pittſburgh. Jan. 14, 1788.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, living on Moon Run, near the mouth of Chartiers Creek, early laſt fall, A Black MARE, about 13 hands high, 6 or 7 years old, branded on the near ſhoulder and buttock I. C. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property. pay charges, and take her away.

JAMES SPIERS,

Waſhington County. Jan. 14, 1788.

TO BE LET,

And entered on the firſt of April.

A COMMODIOUS Houſe, thirty three feet ſquare, two ſtories high, with four rooms on each floor, four of which are fire rooms, a kitchen twenty feet by ſeventeen, an extenſive cellar, with a paſſage door in each front, and a double ſtable, with ſtalls for ten horſes, the whole will be well finiſhed, and pailed in in the neateſt manner and painted. This houſe is ſituated either for pleaſure or buſineſs, as it ſtands on an elevated ſituation, the upper apartments commanding not only a full view of the Monongahela, but alſo the Alleghany river, and in the moſt centrical part for buſineſs of any kind, in the town of Pittſburgh. A kitchen garden 120 feet by 60, which was well dunged laſt ſpring, may be had with the above premiſſes; alſo a field of 27 acres, delightfully ſituated on the bank of Alleghany, one mile from Pittſburgh, 20 acres of which may be immediately thrown into meadow, and by good management will produce at leaſt 40 ton of hay yearly; theſe are acquiſitions that but few tenements in Pittſburgh can command. The whole will be let on the moſt eaſy terms to an approved tenant. Alſo a neat Store with a ſmall garden, oppoſite the new houſe of Meſſrs. Turnbull and Marmie, in Second-ſtreet, which will be made convenient, and alſo let on eaſy terms to an agreeable tenent. For terms apply to

A. FOWLER.

Pittſburgh, January 9, 1788.

N. B. Any Carpenter wanting employ and will engage to finiſh a ſtair caſe, may apply to the ſubſcriber.

TO BE SOLD,

A Plantation containing upwards of 300 acres of land, ſituate on Sawickly creek in Weſtmoreland county, about forty acres cleared, 12 of which is good meadow, and 30 or 40 acres more may be made; on which is the noted griſt and ſaw mills called Perry's Mills, a good two ſtory dwelling houſe, kitchen, barn and ſtill houſe; it is a good place for a tavern or ſtore, as the public roads leading from Bedford to Pittſburgh, from Ligonier to Simeral's ferry and to Greenſburgh. Likewiſe one other plantation in the ſame county, containing about 300 acres, between 60 and 70 is the firſt rate bottom on the Monongahela river, 45 acres cleared, 25 of which is good timothy meadow, the upland is chiefly walnut, on it is a good merchant mill, within about 200 yards of the Monongahela river, now in order for making merchantable flour, a dwelling houſe and ſtill houſe, and ſeveral other out houſes, it is well ſituate for public buſineſs or tranſporting flour down the river; there is a ferry kept there, and public roads leading from it to Pittſburgh, which is 15 miles diſtant, to Waſhington, to Union Town in Fayette county, to Simeral and Budd's ferries on Yough. Patents, and good titles will be given for both. Alſo ſeveral other tracts, ſome improved and ſome unimproved. Any perſon inclining to purchaſe may know the terms by applying to John Perry at Braddock's Fields, or the ſubſcriber on the premiſes.

JAMES PERRY.

SHERIFF's SALE.

A PLANTATION on the waters of Chartier's creek, in Waſhington county, adjoining lands of James Farrel and others, is taken in execution as the property of the executors of Thomas Cook, deceaſed, and to be ſold by the late ſheriff. I do hereby warn all perſons from purchaſing this plantation at this ſale, as no good title can be made thereon, the patent being in me, by a patent from the commonwealth of Pennſylvania.

ROBERT M'GEE,

Head waters of Peter's and Chartier's creek Waſhington County.

John & William Irwin,

Have juſt received at their New Store in Pittſburgh A LARGE and general aſſortment of Dry Goods and Groceries, which they will ſell on the loweſt terms for caſh, peltry or country produce. No credit will be given to any perſon. Jan. 9 1788.

Juſt Publiſhed and to be Sold at the Printing Office, Pittſburgh, the

PITTSBURGH ALMANAC,

OR

WESTERN EPHEMERIS,

For the Year of our Lord 1788.

Which may be had at the Printing Office, Pittſburgh, Wholeſale and Retail, on the moſt reaſonable Terms.

*** The calculations for this Almanac are made with the greateſt exactneſs to anſwer the meridian of the Weſtern Country.

SALT.

BEST Fine and Allum Salt to be ſold for Caſh, Wheat, Rye, or Barley, by Iſaac Craig & Co. at their Diſtillery.

Pittſburg, Sept. 5, 1787.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, living at the nine mile run, three CALVES, one ſuppoſed to be two years old next ſpring, the other two yearlings. The owner may have them again by proving property and paying charges.

THOMAS GIBSON.

Weſtmoreland County, Jan. 2, 1788.

John Acheſon & Co.

HAVE removed their Store in Waſhington to captain George M'Cormick's, where they are now opening a freſh Aſſortment of Goods, ſuitable to the ſeaſon, which they will ſell on reaſonable terms for pork, whiſkey, country linen, hemp, flax, all kinds of peltry, ſkins, &c.

Said company will open a ſtore at Mr. John Baldwin's, on Mingo creek, about the 10th of January, 1788, where they will receive for goods, wheat, rye, and all the abovementioned articles. Thoſe who pleaſe to favor them with their cuſtom, may depend on being ſupplied on the moſt reaſonable terms.

All perſons indebted to ſaid company are deſired to come in and ſettle off their accounts immediately,

Town of Waſhington, Dec. 29, 1787.

A SCHOOL,

IS opened at the Houſe of Mr. M'NICKEL, in Front ſtreet, in which will be taught the Latin Language, Reading Engliſh Grammatically, Writing, and Arithmetic, by

THOMAS TOUSEY.

Pittſburgh, January 4, 1788

N. B. An Evening School is alſo kept in the ſame Houſe.

ALL perſons indebted to the ſubſcriber are requeſted to call and diſcharge the ſame, as he intends leaving the place where he now lives, very ſhortly, and thoſe he ſtands indebted to are requeſted to call to have their accounts ſettled

ÆNEAS M'CALLISTER.

Jan. 23, 1788.

SECRETARY's OFFICE.

Philadelphia, December 18, 1787.

NOTICE is hereby given to all perſons deſirous of contracting for opening and making good the road lately laid out and viewed from Frankſtown branch of Juniata in Bedford county, to Conemaugh in the county of Weſtmoreland, and from thence down the ſouth ſide of ſaid river, to the mouth of the Loyalhanna; that propoſals for making the road will be received at the office aforeſaid, until the firſt day of April next.

CHARLES BIDDLE, Secretary.

This road is to be fifty feet in width, except in ſuch places as require digging, where it is to be only twelve feet.

IN COUNCIL,

Philadelphia, December 22, 1787.

WHEREAS divers inhabitants of the county of Bedford, have prayed that the ſtate highway, appointed by act of aſſembly of the 25th of September, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty five, may be confirmed and made good: And Whereas the monies appropriated by the ſaid act of aſſembly, are inſufficient for making the ſaid road ſixty feet wide as the law directs, and council being deſirous of complying with the ſaid requeſt as far as the money appropriated will admit; therefore,

Ordered, That ſuch part of the ſaid road as leads from this ſide of Sideling Hill to the oppoſite ſide of Ray's Hill, in the county of Bedford, be cleared and made good and ſufficient, to be twelve feet wide on the ſides of the hills, or among the rocks, and not leſs than twenty feet wide on the other ground, and room to be made for not leſs than three waggons to draw off to the one ſide in the narrow places, at a convenient diſtance for others to paſs by, and the waters to run next to the hill ſide.

Ordered, That public notice be given that propoſals for doing the aforeſaid work, will be received at the Secretary's Office in Philadelphia, until the firſt day of April next.

Extract from the Minutes,

JAMES TRIMBLE,

For Charles Biddle, Secrtary.

Sheriff's Sale.

BY virtue of the commonwealth writ of venditioni exponas to me directed, will be ſold at public vendue in the town of Waſhington, on Tueſday the 5th day of February next, a tract of land ſituate on the ſouth branch of King's creek, in Smith townſhip in the county of Waſhington, adjoining lands of John Bleazer, William M'Laughlin and others, containing 300 acres, be the ſame more or leſs, which was ſeized and taken in execution as the property of Samuel Johnſon, and to be ſold by

JAMES MARSHEL;

late ſheriff W. C.

Jan. 16, 1788.

FLAX.

A Generous price, in caſh or goods, will be given for a quantity of well hecked flax.

Enquire of the printers.

Pittſburg, Feb. 1, 1788.